

ENERGY TIDBITS

December 2004

Detroit Edison Renewable Energy Program was included in the recent MPSC order. The program would be available to all customers throughout Detroit Edison's service territory on a voluntary basis and should be able to accommodate approximately 1% of the company's residential sales prior to the end of calendar year 2006. The company should target expansion of the program to be able to accommodate approximately 2%-3% of the company's residential sales prior to the end of calendar year 2008. The MPSC has directed Detroit Edison to undertake a survey by July 1, 2005 to inventory all available renewable resources and those that might be developed within the Detroit Edison service territory. The company shall file an application on or before July 1, 2005 to implement a program.

Pierce Cedar Creek Institute's Third Annual Renewable Energy Conference will be held on Saturday, January 22, 8:30 am - 4 pm. The conference is geared to home and business owners interested in making their facilities more energy efficient, and to renewable energy enthusiasts who wish to increase their knowledge and meet with area experts. The conference will include a State of the State Energy Report by Pat Hudson from Michigan's Energy Office. John Richter, co-founder of the Institute for Sustainable Energy Education, will present the keynote session "Why Renewables?" Registration is only \$30 for adults and \$15 for students. Call 269-721-4190 or visit <http://www.cedarcreekinstitute.org> for more information.

Nature's Energy is a 100% renewable electricity product now available to Wyandotte Municipal Services' customers through a new green pricing program. <http://www.wyan.org>

Lawrence Technological University now offers engineers in the field of energy management a program that can lead to a Certificate in Energy and Environmental Management (CEEM). The first course will be starting this January 2005, with the CEEM examination at the conclusion of the course in the spring 2005. http://www.ltu.edu/engineering/energyprograms_management.asp

DTE Energy Technologies & Kathabar Systems have joined forces to demonstrate an advanced combined heat and power system at the University of Maryland. The system generates power and provides dehumidification. The system combines a 75 kW natural gas fired engine with a liquid desiccant unit. The Kathabar desiccant unit directly dehumidifies the ventilation makeup air which reduces the A/C load by about 25%.

Outdoor Discovery Center in Fillmore Township has received a donation of an 80-ft wind turbine from American Electric Power. The turbine has three 10-ft blades. The Center is in one of the windier spots in Michigan according to recent wind maps, said Craig Brumels of Coastal Wind Energy, who installed the turbine. The wind generator will provide most of the power for the Center, which has a monthly electric bill of about \$800. The turbine will be used in an educational program on alternative energy and turbine data will be put on a web site which students and community members can access.

Target Finder is an Energy Star internet-based tool that helps you manage energy during the design of a new building. With Target Finder you can set an aggressive energy performance target for a building design and compare your estimated energy consumption to the established target. A Statement of Energy Design Intent can be generated to ensure that the energy performance is delivered in the completed building. http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=business.bus_index and click on Target Finder.

Procurement of Architectural & Engineering Services for Sustainable Buildings: A Guide for Federal Project Managers is a 36-page guide for federal construction project managers. <http://www.nrel.gov/docs/fy04osti/34413.pdf>

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Liberal Party in the province of Ontario has adopted a resolution to support advanced renewable tariffs on the basis that such tariffs have resulted in Cdn\$20 billion of private investment in Germany. At its policy conference, delegates said the provincial government should encourage the use of renewables by implementing tariffs for solar, small hydro, and wind energy. The Liberal Party is in power in the province.

Upper Peninsula Energy Star Home has been built by Christine and Sam Simonetta. The crowning jewel is the 2.5 kW wind turbine from Scotland that proudly stands atop Onota Hill overlooking Lake Superior. They estimate the turbine will produce 60-70% of their electricity. The house features 6" Structural Insulated Panel walls (R-24) & thermal siding takes the total wall value to R-27, a roof insulated with 10" of Icynene (R-55), 92% efficient boiler for radiant in-floor heat, triple paned windows (total unit value of R-4), sink/shower flow restrictors, dual flush kits on toilets, Energy Star appliances, compact fluorescent bulbs, phantom load reduction including switches for any continuous energy drains, masonry stove with water loop for preheating domestic hot water, and an energy recovery ventilator to bring fresh air into this tight house with minimum energy loss. For additional information: <http://www.up5starhome.com/index.htm>

New Energy Demonstration Centers will be developed in Marquette (Northern Options) and Traverse City (Northwestern Michigan College) next year. You can find information on the existing six centers at <http://www.warmtraining.org/medc/>

Amendment 37 will require Colorado's top utilities to provide a percentage of their retail electricity sales from renewable resources beginning with 3% by 2007, increasing to 10% by 2015. Colorado is the first in the nation to pass a renewable energy requirement through a statewide ballot initiative. The passage of Amendment 37 will mean 1,200 MW of wind capacity in Colorado by 2015. There is 223 MW of existing wind capacity and 500 MW of additional wind power has been announced by Xcel Energy.

Improving Process Heating System Performance: A Sourcebook for Industry is designed to provide process heating system users with a reference outlining opportunities to improve system performance and optimize energy efficiency in industrial energy systems. <http://www.nrel.gov/docs/fy04osti/35992.pdf>

The End of Suburbia: Oil Depletion & The Collapse of the American Dream? will be held at Upland Hills Ecological Awareness Center, Oxford on Saturday, December 11, 2004, 1-5 pm. Contact: <http://www.uheac.org>



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